

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method of enhancing fault tolerance of a software system, the software system comprising a plurality of active processes executed in an active processor domain, the method comprising the steps of:
 - generating an active message having a list of the plurality of active processes that are to receive the active message for processing by the active processor domain;
 - generating a modified active message by providing an active time indicator associated with the active message for each of the plurality of active processes;
 - generating a stand-by message for processing in a stand-by processor domain, the stand-by processor domain comprising a plurality of stand-by processes;
 - generating a modified stand-by message by providing a stand-by time indicator for each of the plurality of stand-by processes in the stand-by domain;
 - generating a statistical characteristic for the modified active message; and
 - based on the statistical characteristic, interchanging the stand-by processor domain with the active processor domain.
2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of determining a status of the active processor domain in response to the active time indicator.
3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2 wherein a respective active time indicator is associated with each process of the plurality of processes, and wherein the step of determining the status of the active processor domain is responsive to more than one of the active time indicators.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the active time indicator comprises a time-stamp indicating the time the at least one process completed processing the active message.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the active time indicator comprises a time-stamp indicating the time elapsed while the at least one process processed the active message.
6. (Canceled).

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of determining the statistical characteristic comprises generating a time average of the duration of the at least one process of the plurality of processes for a plurality of active messages.
8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7 wherein the step of determining statistical characteristic comprises generating a standard deviation from the time average.
9. (Canceled)
10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of determining a status of the stand-by processor domain in response to the stand-by time indicator.
11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10 wherein a respective stand-by time indicator is associated with each process of the plurality of stand-by processes of the stand-by domain and wherein the step of determining the status of the stand-by processor domain is responsive to at least two of the stand-by time indicators.
12. (Canceled)
13. (Canceled)
14. (Canceled)
15. (Canceled)
16. (Canceled)
17. (Canceled)
18. (Canceled)
19. (Canceled)
20. (Canceled)
21. (Canceled)
22. (Canceled)
23. (Canceled)

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[23]]1, including the further step of forwarding the active message to the active processes on the list, to allow respective active processes to generate the modified active message.
25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein interchanging the stand-by processor domain with the active processor domain based on the statistical characteristic, includes comparing the statistical characteristic to a predetermined threshold value.
26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein interchanging the stand-by processor domain with the active processor domain based on the statistical characteristic, includes comparing the statistical characteristic generated for the active processor to the statistical characteristic generated for the stand-by processor.
27. (New) A method of enhancing fault tolerance of a software system, the software system comprising a plurality of active processes executed in an active processor domain, the method comprising the steps of:
 - generating an active message for processing by the active processor domain;
 - generating a modified active message by providing an active time indicator associated with the active message for each of the plurality of active processes;
 - generating a stand-by message for processing in a stand-by processor domain, the stand-by processor domain comprising a plurality of stand-by processes;
 - generating a modified stand-by message by providing a stand-by time indicator for each of the plurality of stand-by processes in the stand-by domain;
 - generating a statistical characteristic for the modified active message; and
 - based on the statistical characteristic, interchanging the stand-by processor domain with the active processor domain;wherein interchanging the stand-by processor domain with the active processor domain based on the statistical characteristic, includes comparing the statistical characteristic generated for the active processor to the statistical characteristic generated for the stand-by processor.